Exercise Solutions for Math 20

Radicals and Complex Numbers

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Contents

1 Simplify the following. Rationalize the denominators.

1.1 $\frac{24c^{-\frac{1}{2}}d^{\frac{2}{3}}}{18c^{-\frac{1}{7}}d^{-\frac{3}{5}}}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{4c^{-\frac{1}{2}}d^{\frac{2}{3}}}{3c^{-\frac{1}{7}}d^{-\frac{3}{5}}}$	Simplify the fraction to lowest terms.
$\Rightarrow \frac{4d^{\frac{2}{3}}c^{\frac{1}{7}}d^{\frac{3}{5}}}{3c^{\frac{1}{2}}}$	$a^{-\frac{b}{c}} = \frac{1}{a^{\frac{b}{c}}}$
$\Rightarrow \frac{4d^{\frac{2}{3}}d^{\frac{3}{5}}}{3}c^{\frac{1}{7}-\frac{1}{2}}$	$\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$
$\Rightarrow \frac{4d^{\frac{2}{3}}d^{\frac{3}{5}}}{3}c^{\frac{2}{14}-\frac{7}{14}}$ $\Rightarrow \frac{4d^{\frac{2}{3}}d^{\frac{3}{5}}}{3}c^{-\frac{5}{14}}$	LCM = 14
$\Rightarrow \frac{4}{3}c^{-\frac{5}{14}}d^{\frac{2}{3}+\frac{3}{5}}$	$a^m a^n = a^{m+n}$
$\Rightarrow \frac{4}{3}c^{-\frac{5}{14}}d^{\frac{10}{15}+\frac{9}{15}}$ $\Rightarrow \frac{4}{3}c^{-\frac{5}{14}}d^{\frac{19}{15}}$	LCM = 15
$\Rightarrow \frac{4d^{\frac{19}{15}}}{3c^{\frac{5}{14}}}$ $\Rightarrow \frac{4\sqrt[15]{d^{19}}}{3\sqrt[14]{c^5}}$	$a^{-\frac{b}{c}} = \frac{1}{a^{\frac{b}{c}}}$
$\Rightarrow \frac{4\sqrt[15]{d^{19}}}{3\sqrt[14]{c^5}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[14]{c^9}}{\sqrt[14]{c^9}}$ $\Rightarrow \frac{4\sqrt[14]{c^9}\sqrt[15]{d^{19}}}{3c}$ ■	Rationalize.

1.2 $(u^{\frac{1}{3}} + (uv)^{\frac{1}{6}} + v^{\frac{1}{3}})(u^{\frac{1}{6}} - v^{\frac{1}{6}})$

$\Rightarrow (u^{\frac{1}{3}} + u^{\frac{1}{6}}v^{\frac{1}{6}} + v^{\frac{1}{3}})(u^{\frac{1}{6}} - v^{\frac{1}{6}})$	Distribute exponent.
$\Rightarrow u^{\frac{1}{2}} - v^{\frac{1}{2}}$ $\Rightarrow \sqrt{u} - \sqrt{v}$ ■	Use difference of two cubes.

1.3 $\sqrt[3]{-8^4}$

$\Rightarrow -\sqrt[3]{8^4}$ $\Rightarrow -\sqrt[3]{(2^3)^4}$	$\sqrt[m]{-a} = -\sqrt[m]{a}$ for odd m
$\Rightarrow -\sqrt[3]{(2^4)^3}$ $\Rightarrow -2^4$ $\Rightarrow -16$ ■	$(a^m)^n = (a^n)^m$

1.4 $\sqrt[4]{9x^8}$

$\Rightarrow \sqrt[4]{9}\sqrt[4]{x^8}$ $\qquad \sqrt[m]{ab} = \sqrt[m]{a}\sqrt[m]{b}$

$\Rightarrow \sqrt[4]{3^2}\sqrt[4]{x^8}$

$\Rightarrow x^2\sqrt{3}$

■

1.5 $\sqrt{\sqrt[3]{9a^4b^4}}$

$\Rightarrow \sqrt[6]{9a^4b^4}$ $\qquad \sqrt[m]{\sqrt[n]{a}} = \sqrt[m+n]{a}$

$\Rightarrow \sqrt[6]{3^2a^4b^4}$

$\Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{3a^2b^2}$

■

1.6 $\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{8}} + \frac{9}{\sqrt[3]{16}}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{8}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{9}{\sqrt[3]{16}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[3]{4}}{\sqrt[3]{4}}$ Rationalize.

$\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt{5}\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{16}} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{4}}{\sqrt[3]{64}}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt{5}\sqrt{2}}{4} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{4}}{4}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt{5}\sqrt{2}+9\sqrt[3]{4}}{4}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt{10}+9\sqrt[3]{4}}{4}$

■

1.7 $\frac{x^2-2x+1}{\sqrt{x}+1}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{x^2-2x+1}{\sqrt{x}+1} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x}-1}{\sqrt{x}-1}$ Rationalize using difference of two squares.

$\Rightarrow \frac{(x^2-2x+1)(\sqrt{x}-1)}{x-1}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{(x-1)^2(\sqrt{x}-1)}{x-1}$ Factor by grouping.

$\Rightarrow (x-1)(\sqrt{x}-1)$

■

1.8 $\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{4}-\sqrt[3]{-27}}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{4}+\sqrt[3]{27}}$ — $\sqrt[m]{-a} = -\sqrt[m]{a}$ for odd m

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{4}+\sqrt[3]{27}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[3]{4^2}-\sqrt[3]{4}\sqrt[3]{27}+\sqrt[3]{27^2}}{\sqrt[3]{4^2}-\sqrt[3]{4}\sqrt[3]{27}+\sqrt[3]{27^2}}$ — Rationalize using difference of two cubes.

$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt[3]{4^2}-\sqrt[3]{4}\sqrt[3]{27}+\sqrt[3]{27^2}}{4+27}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt[3]{4^2}-3\sqrt[3]{4}+\sqrt[3]{27^2}}{4+27}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt[3]{4^2}-3\sqrt[3]{4}+\sqrt[3]{27^2}}{31}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt[3]{16}-3\sqrt[3]{4}+\sqrt[3]{27^2}}{31}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt[3]{16}-3\sqrt[3]{4}+\sqrt[3]{(3^3)^2}}{31}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt[3]{16}-3\sqrt[3]{4}+\sqrt[3]{(3^2)^3}}{31}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt[3]{16}-3\sqrt[3]{4}+3^2}{31}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt[3]{16}-3\sqrt[3]{4}+9}{31}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt[3]{8}\sqrt[3]{2}-3\sqrt[3]{4}+9}{31}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt[3]{2}-3\sqrt[3]{4}+9}{31}$

■